

**Frank D. Lanterman Regional Center
Service Provider Advisory Committee
Hosted by AbilityFirst
February 1, 2017
Minutes**

SPAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Kimberly West-Isaac
Traci Jones-Martinez
Nicole Hajjar
Keri Castaneda
Sandy Moreno
Miriam Whitfield
Jim Storck

EXCUSED

Israel Ibanez
Dee Prescott

GUESTS

Shanna Hart – AbilityFirst
Angela Cooper – The Campbell Center
Michael Barkyoumb – AbilityFirst
Kelly Ternent – Change Factor Analysis
Dacia Fusaro – Jewish Family Service
Janet Upjohn – Cheerful Helpers
Yvonne Nakamoto – Total Education Solutions
Kelly White – Villa Esperanza Services
Beatrice Diaz – In2Vision
Brian Nguyen – Easter Seals

STAFF

Karen Ingram

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM and introductions were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 7, 2016 had a spelling error. Correction was made from GMAC to GAMC on page 3 under 2017 SPAC meeting Locations. The minutes were approved as corrected.

REPORTS

Board Meeting

Ms. West reported the following:

- There was a demonstration of the new electronic IPP process.
- Grassroots is scheduled in April. LRC will sponsor a group going to Sacramento to visit Legislators to bring issues forward.

- The recent LRC audit came back positive, no issues identified.
- The contract between DDS and regional centers is not finalized yet, but it seems that all regional centers are in good financial position.
- The Board approved the proposed changes to the ILS Standards. Standards are posted on the LRC website.

Legislative Advocacy

Ms. Ingram reported that LRC will only take a small group of people to Grassroots as there are no major Bills to follow at the present time. There is one active Bill that will assist with service provider rate adjustments. More information on this will follow.

Ms. Ingram informed that ARCA is gathering data from around the State as some regional centers are reporting that their health and safety waiver requests for adjustments due to local minimum wage increases are not being approved.

Ms. Ingram shared that if the Administration and Congress takes away the Affordable Care Act it will be a \$20 billion dollar hit to California. Cuts to other service areas would also impact regional center clients.

Ms. Moreno will be going to Sacramento to meet with Legislators on March 28.

CMS Final Rule

Ms. Ingram reported that the amended plan has been submitted to CMS.

Regional Centers received funding for a Home & Community Based Services (HCBS) position. DDS will facilitate regular meetings with these staff to help ensure that service providers are transitioning to CMS Final Rule compliant program settings and services.

The DDS task group has been working on revising the self-assessment tool. It is hoped that the final “draft” for the self-assessment tool will be ready soon.

Fifteen million dollars in transition funds were made available in the FY 2016/17 budget; DDS received 900 proposals requesting \$300 million dollars. Ms. Ingram stated that requests indicated that providers need to be educated as to what services should look like under the CMS Final Rule.

DDS will send a list to regional centers of the agencies that are awarded funds. RCs will contact providers to ask for expanded proposals prior to issuing their contracts. The list will be released sometime in February.

OLD BUSINESS

SP Breakfast

The committee is still looking for speakers. The breakfast subcommittee will check the website of potential speaker, Julia Bascom, and report back at the next meeting. Ms. Moreno asked members to send their recommendations to her for the sub-committee’s review. The group hopes to have a speaker in place by the end of March. Ms. Moreno encouraged providers to start collecting donations and goodie bag items.

NEW BUSINESS

Annual Whistleblower Policy Review

Ms. Ingram shared that DDS requires that regional center employees and Board members sign the Whistleblower Policy annually. Regional centers are required to notify providers of this requirement annually. Ms. Ingram reminded the group that Service Providers are also required to have a Whistleblower Policy, and to review it with their employees on an annual basis. The LRC and DDS Whistleblower Policy are posted on the LRC website.

CalABLE Report

Ms. Ingram reported that CalABLE is a new savings account opportunity for people with disabilities. It is a national program – The ABLE Act – that provides the opportunity for people with disabilities to have a savings account without their benefits being affected. The limit for this savings account is \$100,000. These monies have a broader application; and can be used for anything that the client wants or needs. LRC will be promoting this program; translations to other languages will be provided as needed. This program will be launched in late spring. More information can be found on the Treasurer’s website. There will be a link on the LRC website.

DDS Dashboard

Ms. Ingram shared that the DDS Dashboard is active. The dashboard has information for all regional centers. ARCA has requested that DDS keep current updates on the DDS Dashboard as numbers are subject to change from time to time.

POS Disparities Study

DDS has approved a request from ARCA for funding to look carefully at the POS Disparity Data that is posted on the DDS Dashboard. A contract is being done with Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles to see, by regional center, if there really is a disparity or if some centers have more clients accessing generic resources rather than POS.

UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CONCERNS

- Ms. Ingram announced that the new QA manager position in the Community Services Unit has been filled and starts on March 6. The QA Manager will oversee the CMS Final Rule implementation.
- Tom Pomeranz will be presenting on March 8, 9:00am-4:30pm, at the Goodwill Training Center – cost is \$15. This training is for managers, supervisors and lead staff to help them get tools to be better coaches for the direct staff they supervise. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.
- Peter Leidy will be presenting on April 7, 9:00am-1:00pm, at the Goodwill Training Center – cost is \$10. This training is for all providers and will focus on person centered planning and making a difference in the individual’s life. Continental breakfast will be provided.
- The 2017 APSE National Conference is June 20-22, 2017 in Portland, Oregon. For more information contact Angela Cooper at angela@thecampbellcenter.org
- Ms. Ingram announced that Carmen Jimenez-Wynn is the new Employment Specialist in the Community Services Unit. She starts on February 6.

- KYRC will be invited to do a presentation at the next meeting. Clinical Services will also be invited at a later date to present on how to deal with medical/health issues, medical plans and medical needs.

2017 SPAC meeting Locations

- March 1 – GAMC, Play to Learn Center – Eagle Rock
- April 5 – Total Education Solutions – S. Pasadena
- May 3 – Smile Wonder – Los Angeles
- June 7 – Easter Seals – Glendale, CalWes will host
- July 6 – No meeting
- August 2 – Gogian House – Glendale
- September 6 – FDLRC – Los Angeles
- October 4 – Easter Seals – Glendale
- November 1 – SP Breakfast – La Canada
- December 6 – Smile Wonder – Los Angeles

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM

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Service Provider Advisory Committee Meeting
ATTENDANCE

2016-20167	N O V 16	D E C 16	J A N 17	F E B 17	M A R 17	A P R 17	M A Y 17	J U N 17	J U L 17	A U G 17	S E P 17	O C T 17	T O T A L
K. WEST-ISAAC - Chair	SP	X	N	X					N				
T. JONES MARTINEZ	B	X	O	X					O				
S. MORENO	R	X		X									
I. IBANEZ	E	X	M	E					M				
K. CASTANEDA	A	X	E	X					E				
M. WHITFIELD	K	X	E	X					E				
N. HAJJAR	F	X	T	X					T				
D. PRESCOTT	A	X	I	E					I				
J. STORCK	S	X	N	X					N				
VACANT	T		G						G				